

00000000

R W CZCQYVCZC

7AM-TURNER 2TAKES 800±

±7(EXCLUSIVE) (10 P.M. EST EMBARGO)±

7BY DREW MIDDLETON±

77C. 1977 N.Y. Times News Service±

WASHINGTON - The Soviet Union's rejection of the United States proposals for limiting strategic weapons deployment may be linked to Russian progress on a new family of nuclear arms, according to Adm. Stansfield Turner, director of Central Intelligence.

Qualified sources familiar with the Soviet strategic buildup have asserted that 15 new weapons systems are in the test and development stage and that the investment in these systems may amount to as much as \$40 billion.

Admiral Turner, in the course of an exclusive interview, did not confirm or deny these figures although they are accepted by many highly placed members of the intelligence community here.

The CIA director did point out, however, that the Vladivostok agreement, in principle reached between the United States and the Soviet Union in 1974, involved no significant reduction in the number of Russian strategic weapons. The agreement put a ceiling of 2,400 on the number of strategic missiles and bombers that each side could possess.

Acceptance by Moscow of the Carter administration's proposals, Turner said, would entail reductions in the present massive Soviet strategic weapons program with economic consequences. The Vladivostok agreement, he commented, involved "no cutback."

Turner does not believe that the Soviets have yet attained nuclear weapons parity with the United States, although he concedes that the Soviet government may consider that parity and even superiority are within reach when present weapons in the development and testing programs are deployed.

The problem, the CIA director indicated, again is in perceptions. The world talks about nuclear parity as though it had already been established, although it has not been established, he said.

Turner saw a gradual erosion in the military balance of power between the United States and the Soviet Union. This is particularly true he said, in "international perceptions" about the growth of the Soviet navy into a force able to project power into areas as far distant from the Soviet Union such as the Indian Ocean.

A century ago Czarist Russia deployed large fleets in the Mediterranean Sea and in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, so there is nothing particularly new about Russia as a world naval power, the admiral commented.